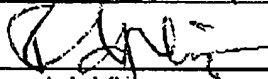


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I hereby certify that I have reasonable basis to expect that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 via fax number 571-273-8300 on

12/19/06  
  
Raymond J. Vivacqua

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/717,417  
Filing Date: 11/19/2003  
Applicant: Patrick M. Gibson  
Group Art Unit: 3682  
Examiner: Vicky A. Johnson  
Title: HYDRAULIC FLUID STORAGE APPARATUS FOR A TRANSMISSION  
Attorney Docket: GP-302907

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on 09/19/2006, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

DEC 19 2006

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace Paragraph [0018] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0018]        One such reason for returning the fluid to the reservoir 16 might be a rapid deceleration of the vehicle, where, as speed is reduced, more oil is stored in transit and higher sump levels will be required to keep the hydraulic pump primed. In this case, the centrifugal dam effect will be reduced as speed drops, releasing more of the fluid stored in the reservoir for use in the primary sump. In other conditions, a reduction in operating temperature will also reduce the fluid level within the sump 16 again reducing the centrifugal force created on the hydraulic fluid and allowing the fluid in the sump 18 to return to the sump 16 44.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**